

AGN. NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**MOTION BY SUPERVISOR YVONNE B. BURKE**

MAY 10, 2005

Assembly Members Mike Gordon and Jerome Horton recently introduced Assembly Bill 717 (AB 717) which would require the California Department of Health Services to issue a special permit to the Centinela Airport Clinic to allow it to operate as an emergency receiving center, a freestanding non-hospital site for treatment of basic life support emergency patients.

In the event of a disaster, terrorist attack, or other major event at the Los Angeles International Airport, the Centinela Airport Clinic's proximity to the airport make it an important center for triage and basic life support levels of emergency care.

Hospital emergency rooms in urban communities are increasingly overcrowded. Many of the patients that are transported to hospital emergency rooms are treated and released to their physician's care, raising concerns that a hospital emergency room is an inappropriate setting for treatment of these patients. This inappropriate use of hospital emergency rooms threatens the health and safety of those whose lives may depend upon them.

**- MORE -**

MOTION

BURKE \_\_\_\_\_

YAROSLAVSKY \_\_\_\_\_

KNABE \_\_\_\_\_

ANTONOVICH \_\_\_\_\_

MOLINA \_\_\_\_\_

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The County's Department of Health Services indicates that AB 717 will improve the utilization of scarce emergency room resources through diversion of less seriously ill or injured patients to a more appropriate setting of care. The Department further indicates that AB 717 can be improved by amending to specify that the Centinela Airport Clinic must comply with the policies and procedures of the local EMS Agency to receive basic life support patients as part of the 911 EMS system, and to increase reimbursement rates for physicians and ambulance service providers to match the level of care provided.

**I, THEREFORE, MOVE THAT THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

Support AB 717 and seek to amend the measure to specify that the Centinela Airport Clinic must comply with the policies and procedures of the local EMS Agency to receive basic life support patients as part of the 911 EMS system, and to increase reimbursement rates for physicians and ambulance service providers to match the level of care provided.

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